

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:

[0001] This is a divisional application of Patent Application Serial No. 09/927,931 filed on August 13, 2001, which is a continuation application of PCT/JP00/01330 filed on March 6, 2000.

Please replace paragraphs [0006] and [0007] with the following amended paragraph:

[0006] On the other hand, conventional photochromic compound [undergo] undergoes the photochromic reaction in a state where they are dispersed or dissolved in a macromolecular film or a solvent, and there has been no photochromic compound which stably undergoes the photochromic reaction in a crystalline phase like the photochromic material of the present invention.

Brief Description of the Drawings

[0007] [Fig.] Figs. 1a and 1b are phase diagrams illustrating the relationship between the open-ring form/ring-closure form rate of a compound (II) to be obtained in the following Example of Synthesis 1 and its melting point, where Fig. 1a is a phase diagram in case of light irradiation and Fig. 1b is a phase diagram in case of a mixture.

Please replace paragraph [0011] with the following amended paragraph:

[0011] Each of the above [a] compounds transfers in phase from [a] an open-ring form to a closed-ring form with ultraviolet irradiation, while being in the crystalline state.